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ECHO OF ARUBA

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Vol.III, nr. 8, Sept. 1961

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PUBLISHER'S PAGE

BY MORRIS SERPHOS JR.

On August 1 and 2 the referendum at the Lago Oil and Transport Co. Ltd. was held, to decide what representation the oil workers desired to represent them from now on, or if they wanted no representation whatsoever. The participants in the referendum were the Independent Oil Workers Union of Aruba (IOWUA) a successor to the Lago Employee Council, which had been the sole representative for the Lago workers for many years, and the Petroleum Workers Federation of Aruba, an affiliate of the Atomatic and Chemical Workers Union of AFL-CIO from the United States. The result was a decisive 53,38% for IOWUA, 43,98% for PWFA and 2,64% desired no representation. PWFA the same night conceded defeat graciously and it may be said that the entire campaign had been much more dignified and serious than expected. Both participating Unions should be complimented for this feat. From now on the concensus is that a period of labor unrest has been ended and a period of labor peace of many years has commenced, which will be to the advantage of newly establishing Petro Chemical Industries in Aruba. The campaign and voting self were closely watched by many interested circles both from Aruba and elsewhere for their consequences on many facets of our economy. A new labor contract for two years or more will shortly be entered into between Lago and the IOWUA.

On July 24 the ATIA held its ANNUAL MEETING.

Elsewhere in this issue you will find some highlights of this Meeting, while in the preceding issue we already printed the Annual Report by the President Mr. Arturo M. Arends. In the course of this month the year contract for printing will be concluded. We wish to thank the Aruba Drukkerij N.V. for their valued contributions to the technical improvement of our publication. It has to be admitted that they went to great sacrifices to fulfill the terms of their contract. A word of particular praise should be directed to Mr. Morren General Manager of Aruba Drukkerij, who together with his staff cooperated magnificently with the Editorial staff.

President Kennedy's speech also had a big impact in this country. The serious world situation was effectively demonstrated by him. It is clear that the Netherlands Antilles as well as so many of other parts of the world pray for the best, but also have the obligation to be prepared for the worst. This means that we should be prepared with our Defense, (significantly His Excellency Mr. Visser, Netherlands (Kingdom) Minister of Defense is visiting the Netherlands Antilles these days). We have to be prepared with adequate inventory of the most important food products and pharmaceuticals. Aruba once already gallantly contributed to a war effort, we hope and pray that another contribution to world defense will not be necessary.

PAGINA DE LOS PUBLICADORES

por M. SERPHOS HIJO

El día 1 y 2 de agosto en el Lago Oil y Transport Corporation Ltd. se inició un plebiscito a fin de decidir quien representará a los trabajadores petroleros en el futuro. Los participantes del referéndum eran la Independent Oil Workers Union of Aruba (IOWUA) el sucesor de la Lago Employee Council, que hace años fué el único representante de los trabajadores de la

Lago, y la Petroleum Workers Federation of Aruba, un afiliado de la Atomatic y Chemical Workers Union of AFL-CIO de los E.E.U.U. El resultado fué una decisiva victoria en ratio de 53,38% para la IOWUA, 43,98% para la PWFA y 2,64% que no querían representación. La misma noche la PWFA graciosamente confirmó su pérdida y se puede conceder que

toda la campaña fué mucho más digna y seria de lo que se había esperado. Felicitamos a ambos participantes por tal hecho. Tenemos la noción que de hoy en adelante la inquietud de trabajo ha terminado y que vamos a gozar un período pacífico lo que será un beneficio para las industrias petroquímicas que están por establecerse en Aruba. Muchos círculos interesados en Aruba y en otros lugares siguieron esta campaña con interés por las consecuencias que el resultado podría tener en varios ramos de nuestra economía. Un contrato de trabajo nuevo de dos años o más será celebrado pronto entre la Lago y la IOWUA. El 24 de julio la ATIA tuvo su conferencia anual. En esta edición Uds encontrarán los puntos principales de esta conferencia, mientras que en la edición anterior el Sr. Arturo M. Arends, Presidente de la ATIA, ya les dió su reporte anual.

El contrato anual con la Aruba Drukkerij N.V. nuestro tipógrafo terminará este mes. Agradecemos la Aruba Drukkerij N.V. por su apreciada contribución en el mejoramiento técnico de nuestra publicación.

Observamos que sacrificaron mucho para poder cumplir con las obligaciones impuestas por el contrato. Sobre todo agradecemos mucho Sr. Morren, Gerente-General de la A.D. que junto con sus empleados cooperó excelentemente con el cuerpo de redactores.

El discurso pronunciado por el Presidente Kennedy tuvo una gran influencia en este país. Según esta discusión las relaciones mundiales se encuentran en una situación grave. Es claro que las Antillas Neerlandesas tanto como otras partes del mundo esperan lo mejor, pero también tienen la obligación de estar alertas. Esto quiere decir que debemos estar preparados para hacer frente a nuestra defensa (Unos de estos días su Excelencia el Ministro de Defensa Sr. Visser visitará las Antillas Neerlandesas).

También debemos estar preparados con un adecuado inventario de productos alimenticios y farmacéuticos más importantes. Ya una vez Aruba tuvo que jugar su papel en una Guerra Mundial y ahora esperamos que esto no sea más necesario.



Mr. G. James Hughes, Miami, has just transferred the Presidency of the Chamber of Commerce of the Americas to Mr. Clinton H. Whitfield, Aruba, who is now performing before the microphone his first pleasant duties.

ER GEBEURT NOOIT WAT!

Zoals bekend, is de maand augustus bij uitstek de komkommermaand, waarin niets van belang plaats vindt.

Deze keer heeft de heer Khrushchev weliswaar voor een zeer ernstige Berlijn-crisis gezorgd, maar aangezien dit een algemene crisis is, waarbij de gehele wereld is betrokken, zou men nog altijd kunnen beweren, dat er niets gebeurt met directe betrekking tot de Nederlandse Antillen, met name tot Aruba.

Dan vergist men zich echter. Er gebeurt veel. Een onderzeese stroom van gebeurtenissen zet zich op het ogenblik in beweging, die te enige tijd aan de oppervlakte zal verschijnen en die ons aller leven zal beïnvloeden. Deze gebeurtenissen zijn veelsoortig. Om er maar een paar te noemen: Wens van Engeland om toe te treden tot de E.E.G.; Punta del Este; Olie uit Libië; Voorbereidingen tot Belgrado conferentie.

Het is allemaal zo ver van ons verwijderd, dat het moeilijk valt zich in te denken, dat wij er ook maar iets mee te maken hebben. Als wij het niet onze zaak maken ons deze gebeurtenissen aan te trekken, dan zouden wij straks kunnen ervaren, dat de stroom aan ons is voorbijgegaan.

In Belgrado willen de „neutrale“ staten bijeenkomen om te bespreken, wat ze zo al kunnen doen met betrekking tot de machtsstrijd tussen Amerika en Rusland, of, beter gezegd, tussen het blok gevormd door de vrije wereld en het blok van de communistische wereld.

Wie wel en wie niet neutraal is, schijnt meer een kwestie van smaak dan van een juist geformuleerde definitie te zijn. Daar er over smaakt niet valt te twisten, constateren wij zonder commentaar, dat deze neutrale staten bestaan uit: Joegoslavië, India, Ethiopië, Marokko, Ghana, Indonesië en Guineä.

Het zou wonderlijk zijn indien het voorgegeven doel werd bereikt door de hartstochtelijke redevoeringen, die straks zullen worden gehouden. Het werkelijke doel is duidelijk: Men wil midden op de wip komen, een derde macht vormen, die dan beslissende invloed kan uitoefenen. Alle genoemde staten behoren tot de z.g. ontwikkelingslanden.

Niet de conferentie zelf, maar het streven is van belang. Waar komt het zwaartepunt van de nieuwe wereld? In de beide Amerika's of in Azië?

Punta del Este zegt, dat het zwaartepunt naar Amerika zal komen te liggen. De heer Che Guevarra, Minister van Economische Zaken in Cuba, waarschuwt de Latijnsamerikaanse volken voor uitbuiting door de Verenigde Staten en de heer Dillon, Minister van Buitenlandse Zaken van de uitbuitende natie, stelt twee duizend miljoen dollars per jaar ter beschikking voor de economische ontwikkeling van de Zuidamerikaanse staten. Tezelfdertijd dringt hij aan op hervormingen, die er op gericht zijn de politieke en economische kracht van deze landen te verhogen.

De olie uit Libië zal in het begin van het volgend jaar gaan vloeien. De prijs is vastgesteld op \$ 2,21 per barrel fob Mersa el Brega in de golf van Sirte. Ko-

mende maand reeds zullen proefverschepingen plaats vinden naar raffinaderijen in Europa.

De Fransen hebben voor de Sahara olie een prijs vastgesteld van \$ 2,65 per barrel fob Bougie, Algerije, en geven de Franse raffinaderijen, die deze olie moeten afnemen, een korting van 15 cent.

Met deelname van Engeland aan de E.E.G. wordt de positie van Nederland beter en de kans, dat de Antillen en Suriname zullen toetreden, wordt zeker niet verkleind, eerder het tegendeel. Bovenstaande gebeurtenissen tezamen beschouwd, doen de vraag opkomen of de betekenis van de Antillen en van Suriname om als trait d'union dienst te doen tussen Europa en Zuid-Amerika niet belangrijk is toegenomen.

Hoe zal Frankrijk staan tegenover de kwestie van de Sahara olie, als deze olie uit een onafhankelijk Algerije komt?

De houding van Venezuela tegenover de Nederlandse Antillen is de laatste tijd nogal wispelturig. Het zou redelijk zijn te verwachten dat deze houding in positieve zin verandert, indien de Antillen, in het gezicht van toenemende concurrentie van Lybische en Russische olie (\$ 1.50 per barrel), zouden kunnen bijdragen tot een verhoogde outlet naar Europa.

Een stille revolutie, die noodzakelijkerwijs komen moest, heeft zijn begin gevonden in Punta del Este. Zuid-Amerika is nu in ernst begonnen om een achterstand in te halen, door eigen wens en eigen kracht en door een formidabele hulp van buiten. De cooperatie tussen de landen, hoewel aarzelend, wordt een voldongen feit. De exporten van deze landen, alle met een gevaarlijke monocultuur, namen in de afgelopen jaren gemiddeld met slechts 4 procent toe, hetgeen gelijk of minder is aan de bevolkingsaanwas. Het valt te verwachten, dat dit beeld geheel zal wijzigen binnen afzienbare tijd.

De Antillen en Suriname zijn geografisch een deel van Zuid-Amerika, terwijl ze cultureel nauw verbonden zijn met Europa. Het zou in de aard van de zaak liggen, indien deze delen van het Koninkrijk der Nederlanden de gelegenheid te baat grepen om hun diensten te verlenen bij de toekomstige, grootse ontwikkeling van Latijns-Amerika.

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DATELINE MANHATTAN

Aruba and Amsterdam now have not only the "A" in common

by Max Tak

Aruba and Amsterdam now have not only the "A" in common.

For 23 unforgettable days I was in Amsterdam, the city with a heart. I had the perfect pleasure to meet numerous friends and colleagues. Among the colleagues were some who expressed a vivid interest in the personalities and situations contributing to the Netherlands Antillian journalistic profession.

There is a magnificent prosperity in Holland. Everybody seems to have an automobile, a TV-set (more than 900.000 sets are sold, which number increases monthly by 23.000) everybody seems to have a HI-FI, a tape recorder and so many things make life pleasant and easier. The 5-days week is brand new and one gets the impression that not everybody is already used to it.

In Holland exists an impressive interest in artistic and cultural affairs. As two of the most prominent book publishers told me: "there is an inexhaustible love for good books."

The Holland Festival impressed both foreign and local visitors by the high level of its productions. Harold C. Schonberg, first music reviewer of the N.Y. Times, visited the Holland Festival and wrote raving articles about it. He expressed admiration for the great artistic and cultural manifestations "the small country" realizes. Mr. Schonberg wrote that compared with equal events in the United States and in several European countries the Holland Festival is a unique organization.

During my Amsterdam stay I lived in my favorite hotel, the Amstel Hotel, which is so extremely well managed. In 5 years this modern hotel will celebrate its 100th birthday.

The Amstel Hotel was nearly each day sold out. In the first place because guests who once enjoyed it always come back and do not change their address once they are in Amsterdam.

However, there were complaints in Holland, espe-

cially in Scheveningen, about the decreasing number of American tourists. Could this be the result of the now vanishing recession which influenced heavily the American economic life in the begin of 1961? Could this be caused by the presidential appeal on Mr. Kennedy's countrymen not to spend this year again 2 billion dollars plus in foreign countries and to help stop the outflow of gold? Or was the war scare the result of menacing statements, which originated in Moscow and were echoed by Washington?

As I see it, it is rather difficult at this early hour to point exactly to the definite reason why the number of American tourists decreased this year.

People who are insiders of the tourist business, told me that the tourist decrease in The Netherlands amounted to 10-15%. When I returned to New York I spoke about the unpleasant problem with somebody who knows a lot about international tourism. When I told him that Holland considered the 10-15% decrease as a rather acceptable guess, he retorted: "It would be nice if this were true! I believe that the decrease of the American share in the European tourist trade is more than a third of the 1960-trade."

In France the number of American tourists decreased this season heavily but there was an important increase of European tourists: Belgians, West Germans, Italians.

I met also people in the tourist field who expressed the belief, that a lot of American tourists now travel in the Western Hemisphere, remain especially in their own country but also extend their travelling interest to Caribbean countries. (With one exception).

It can be assumed that at the end of the travel season it will not only be possible to line up more or less exact figures but one also will know more about the reasons why a lot of Americans hesitated to cross the Atlantic Ocean.

In this connection I want to remind of the fact that in the first half of this year leading American airlines booked together a loss of more than 20 million dollar. There are numerous guesses about this unpleasant situation. One amazing guess is that jet aircraft goes too fast and therefore tourists do not enjoy fully the fact that they are travelling.

I do not believe this. I flew to and from The Netherlands by KLM's DC 8 and enjoyed the trip immensely. That the jet plane cuts off some hours of travelling time promotes in my appreciation the use of this kind of aircraft.

While I was in Amsterdam I was surprised to read in the *Algemeen Handelsblad* of July 27 a highly favorable item about Aruba. Under young, energetic publisher-general-manager Mr. Drost, the *Handelsblad* experiences a complete renovation. Mr. Drost was former-

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ly in charge with supervising advertising activities of the same newspaper.

The item which drew my attention was headlined: **EERSTE EFFECTENBEURS OP ARUBA**. This item informed the reader that Aruba now has the first Netherlands Antillian exchange. Which also means that Aruba and Amsterdam now not only have the first capital of their names in common. The well written survey explains why Aruba decided to start its own exchange. One gets the impression that the exchange will not be open every day. More exactly every night. The Handelsblad-correspondent who is located at Curaçao emphasizes that it has to be considered an advantage that the exchange is established in Aruba because commercial traffic was too much concentrated in Curaçao."

The Handelsblad-reporter mentions the fact that the exchange made its debut in the "Societeit van Bolivar" at Oranjestad and that the interest (20 people) was satisfactory for this event. He wrote that shares of La Esperanza changed hands. Shares of the Antillian "Volksbank" and bonds of the "Vereniging voor Protestants Christelijk Onderwijs" followed the Esperanza-example.

The NAFIs. 4000 of the first night were followed by NAFIs. 108.886 on the second, which under all circumstances is a tremendous increase.

Given the importance of this interesting development and feeling the necessity to register it in the columns of ECHO, I should like to conclude with the final quotations as published in the Handelsblad:

EERSTE EFFECTENBEURS OP ARUBA

Op Aruba is de eerste Nederlands-Antilliaanse effectenbeurs gehouden. De laatste jaren komen er steeds meer aandelen en obligaties in de handel van op Curaçao, op Aruba en St. Maarten gevestigde ondernemingen, alsook van het gouvernement en de eilandelijke besturen. De verhandeling hiervan was moeilijk, omdat er nergens een koers werd genoteerd.

Enkele Arubaanse zakenlieden hebben thans een effectenbeurs georganiseerd; op gezette tijden zal deze beurs worden gehouden. Men acht het over het algemeen een voordeel, dat de beurs op Aruba is gevestigd, omdat het handelsverkeer tot nu toe teveel op één punt, nl. Curaçao, was geconcentreerd.

ANNUAL MEETING A.T.I.A.

On July 24th the Aruba Trade and Industry Association held its annual meeting in the Conference Room of the Aruba Caribbean Hotel. Present were 43 members. After the interesting concise annual Report by the President, Mr. Arturo M. Arends, that appeared in our former issue, the Treasurer, Mr. Simon den Heijer, gave his Report over the past year, that was unanimously accepted. Thereupon the Administrator of the Echo, Mr. Morris Serphos Jr., gave his Report. It is noteworthy that, with a view to the financial situation, a motion was made to increase the contribution of the

Op de eerste beurs, gehouden in de Sociëteit van Bolivar te Oranjestad, bestond behoorlijke belangstelling. Er waren ongeveer twintig belangstellenden opgekomen, voor een betrekkelijk klein gebied als Aruba, meer dan men verwachtte. Natuurlijk was de handel de eerste avond niet erg levendig. Trouwens, het was een goede gedachte van het bestuur om eerst een uiteenzetting te geven van wat de effectenbeurs eigenlijk wilde zijn, want het bleek dat niet iedereen hiervan op de hoogte was. Tijdens de nabuurs ontstond enige handel. Enige aandelen van La Esperanza, een kruideniersbedrijf en supermarkt te Aruba, verwisselden van eigenaar, evenals wat aandelen van de Antilliaanse Volksband en obligaties van de Vereniging voor Prot. Chr. Onderwijs.

Op de eerste beursavond werd voor NA f4000 verhandeld. Op de tweede beursavond was er meer belangstelling. De vraag naar aandelen was groter dan die naar obligaties. Op de tweede beursavond beliep de omzet NA f108.886. De slotkoersen waren als volgt: Aruba Watersport 512.50, La Esperanza 110, Banco Antilliana 525, Aruba Resort Corp. (Hotel Basiruti) 400, Aruven (Aruba Caribbean Hotel) 500, Hotelmij, Curaç 950, Sociedad Bolivariana 12.50 en obligaties Ver. Prot. Chr. Onderwijs 90.

While in Amsterdam I read the report about the Aruba Exchange twice to be sure I was not dreaming. The next morning I read it again.

The Aruba Exchange is a fact, a testimony of pioneering energy.

Aruba..... GOOD LUCK !

MAX TAK

Dear Max,

Glad that you enjoyed your stay in Amsterdam so much. An experienced traveler and connoisseur as you are appreciates the two things worth seeing: the canals of Amsterdam and the beaches of Aruba. You also appreciate the power of such an insignificant mark as a comma is. In this instance the misplacing of a comma made the turnover ten times as big, which goes to show why you better tremble before the gentlemen forming together the union of the graphic industry. With best wishes

EDITOR.

Association. A committee was formed, consisting of Messrs. Viana, Rijdsdijk, Wisniewicz and Mark Serphos, to investigate whether this proposed increase would be necessary and feasible. The result of the investigation was negative, consequently the contribution will not be increased. However, a systematic drive will be held to induce all businessmen of the community to become member of the A.T.I.A. A new cash committee was chosen and installed, the outgoing committee having fulfilled its task with the Report of the Treasurer over the past year.

After having performed the aforementioned routine operations, the meeting proceeded to listen to Mr. Spit with his paper on the new social securities combined with those already in force. In this speech the businessmen of Aruba received a beautiful and very much needed over-all picture, concerning health security, old age and old age pensionfund.

Thereafter the new Board was chosen, consisting of the following gentlemen: Arturo M. Arends, Leo Berlinski, Vice President, Dr. C. W. J. J. Heufke, second Vice President, Simon den Heijer, Treasurer, Morris Serphos Jr., Secretary, Members; Adriaan Arends, Lorenzo Arends, Isio Gottfried, Hans G. Jansen, Albert Raven, Manuel Viana and Fred Wong.

THE INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT OF ARUBA

by Mr. Odis S. Mingus

I have taken as a topic to discuss the Industrial Development of Aruba. We have here almost a classic textbook case of the Transformation of a small, quiet, rural community to an Island densely populated and highly industrialized. All the more remarkable is that this metamorphosis has occurred largely within the past thirty five years.

The ABC islands, of which Aruba is the "A", Bonaire the "B", and Curaçao the "C", were discovered by Alonso Ojeda in July 1499. The fine natural, easily defended, harbor at Curaçao insured the early colonization and development of that island, but it was not until about 1580 that the Spaniards established a small permanent station on this island at Commandeurs Baai in the Sabaneta district. The Spaniards used the island as a plantation for raising horses, and indeed to this day the harbor at Oranjestad is called Paardenbaai, or Horses Bay. The Spaniards, who were hard taskmasters, had some trouble with the local Indian population, but with the advent of the Dutch in 1638, Aruba began a pastoral existence which continued for many years. Maize was grown and ground into meal; fish were plentiful; and goats produced milk and meat. Life was peaceful, but certainly not luxurious.

About 1872, a company started gold mining operations on the Island. This industry continued intermittently for many years, but was never a permanent financial success. Even today, you may see the remains of a rather extensive gold smelter near Frenchman's Pass. In 1880, the Government imported aloe plants from North Africa and planted them in Aruba. While this was an agricultural development, not an industrial one, it did create jobs, and for many years brought sizeable amounts of cash to the Island. The first size-

We congratulate the new Board with their appointments and observe that it is fortified with new, energetic members. The prospects are that this Board will have still more drive than the old one. In the past year the Board did not have the opportunity to develop new projects, that spoke to the imagination, owing to the fact, that is was still wrestling with old problems and had to consolidate its position. The decks being cleared, the accomplishments of the new Board will be thus that all businessmen of Aruba will deem it necessary to become member of the A.T.I.A., who will continue to be the pioneer in the economic development of the "Pearl of the Caribbean."

able industrial venture on the Island was the initiation of phosphate mining in 1879. This project was on the East end of the Island in the San Nicolas area, the main deposits being in the vicinity of the Seroe Colorado lighthouse. The biggest years were from 1883-1893. The operation was abandoned in 1914 when the richest ore beds were worked out.

This brings us to August 1924 when three gentlemen from England came to Aruba seeking a suitable harbor for trans-shipping crude oil being produced in the Lake Maracaibo district of Venezuela. The reason for trans-shipping the crude was that the Maracaibo bar at that time limited ships' drafts to about 12 feet — thereby

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necessitating the use of small shallow-draft vessels to bring out the crude. They chose the harbor of San Nicolas which had previously been used by the phosphate mining company. The project that was planned was rather modest, but it marked the beginning of the modern industrial history of Aruba.

Enlarging and dredging of the harbor, and construction of a dock, was started at once. The first ocean tanker loaded a cargo at San Nicolas in November 1927. In the meantime, the original company that started the project had been acquired by United States Financial Interests, and the decision was made to build a small refinery adjacent to the harbor. Before the first crude oil was processed in January 1929, many more larger and more complex processing units were under construction. This has been an almost continuous pattern ever since. More than \$160,000,000 has been invested. Today, the Lago refinery processes more crude oil than any other single refinery in the world. It should be mentioned that during this same period the Shell interests erected and operated a small refinery on the west end of the island — a plant which is now shut down and is being dismantled.

But reinforced concrete, steel, and machinery do not make history. People make history. The impact on the people was terrific. In the first place, there was simply not enough people on the Island of Aruba to fill the jobs available; so, a massive recruiting program from neighboring islands and countries was necessary. In the second place, there was a great dearth of mechanical and technical skills, so a large importation of expatriates — mainly from the U.S.A. was made.

A great change had to be made in the living and working habits of the people. This was a continuous, 24 hour per day, 365 days per year operation. Stills had to be manned and repaired — ships had to be unloaded and loaded — around the clock. The great majority of the workers had come from a background that had demanded a much less disciplined allocation of time, and consequently, there was considerable absenteeism in the early days. This was overcome fairly quickly and today the Lago absentee record compares favorably with, or is better than, that of North America or Western Europe. It was simply a matter of education and understanding.

1935 the Apprentice Training program was begun. It started in a very modest fashion with only one instructor and 24 pupils, but at its maximum strength had nearly four hundred participants in a four-year course. The boys were paid a modest amount from start — increasing as they progressed. For Lago, this was an expensive, but exciting and rewarding experience. Most of the graduates today are working in responsible positions. In 1950, the local government saw the profit in training young men and started their very excellent Aruba Technical School which has supplanted the Apprentice Training Program at Lago. Today, I believe it can be said that no populace can boast of more embryonic mechanical skills than the Island of Aruba.

You have heard briefly the historical records of in-

dustrial development and some of the measures taken to cope with it. There may be a difference of opinion on what constitutes happiness, but material progress can be measured. The average income of the local employee has quadrupled in the last twenty years as compared with a rise in price of consumer goods of about 135%. The difference is reflected in improved standard of living. The automobile has replaced the burro (the automobile density on the Island of Aruba is only exceeded by the U.S.A., Canada and New Zealand): the gas stove has supplanted the charcoal burner; electric lights have taken the place of the kerosene lamp. Before the arrival of industry, the Island economy supported around 9000 people very modestly; today, 55,000 people are living in comfortable circumstances. Yesterday, six years of schooling was the maximum available — today, 15 years of education are offered on the Island, and 17,000 children are in school. Furthermore, nearly two hundred young people from Aruba in institutions of higher learning in Europe and the U.S.A. — many of them receiving financial assistance from the Government or Lago.

This story has been told from the standpoint of only one Company, and there is no intention to imply that more than a part of these changes can be credited to it. Today, more industry is vitally needed, and you will hear something about this from other speakers. I hope that I have given you some idea of what can be accomplished by the collaboration of private enterprise, a stable and enlightened government, and willing and able people.

Jan Bodegom & Co. Aruba

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opdat zijn bloei door onze kracht worde herwonnen

Wij voeren Sabawaarts onder Blue Peter's zilte zeilen
en ondergingen de stille pracht van slapende schoonheid
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doch moge velen in Saba rust doen verwiljen.

Door de wind gestuwd zetten wij voet aan
St. Maarten's strand
daar zagen wij wat de kracht vermag
van de enkeling die voorgaat in het werk van
dag tot dag
daar werd onze geest gedreven tot samenstreven
hand in hand.

Zoutgeard en zongeblikerd Bonaire
wie bij U met goed gemoed vertieft
ziet met rasse blik wat Gij behoeft
wij zullen met U staan van verre.

Ariba Aruba was onze leus als waren wij zelf Arubanen
wat elders ontspringt aan bronnen uit de aarde
ontvangt in land en hand der Antillen nieuwe waarde
door snelle hulp zal Aruba verder opwaarts gaan.

Curaçao, warm en groot hart der Antillen
op Uw bodem worden de krachten verbonden
om het werk te verzetten dat onze handen vonden
Uw boezem bundelt al wat wij samen willen.
C. BERKHOUWER
Lid 2e Kamer Staten Generaal,
's-Gravenhage

UNIONISM MAKES ENTRY IN ARUBA

BY DONALD LACLE

When the final ballots were tallied the night of August 2, Lago employees in Aruba emerged with a new type of representation and unionism had made its entry on the island. The representation election held on August 1 and 2 at Lago Oil & Transport Co., Ltd., an affiliate of Standard Oil of New Jersey, showed a victory for the Independent Oil Workers' Union of Aruba over the Petroleum Workers' Federation of Aruba. The former has been recognized by the company as the exclusive bargaining agent for its employees.

HISTORY

On March 13, 1961, it was agreed between Lago management and the Lago Employee Council, the ten management and the Lago Employee Council, the then negotiated after expiration of the current contract on April 30, 1961. However, the contract provisions would remain in force until such time as a representation election established decisively the desire of Lago employees with respect to their representation. The company pledged recognition of whichever body was designated by its employees to represent them.

The reason for this decision was a seven-year period of discord and unrest in employee relations at Lago.

Since 1949 Lago employees have been represented by the Lago Employee Council, an inter-plant committee with full bargaining rights. During its close to 12 years of operation, the Lago Employee Council has achieved numerous improvements and liberalizations for the employee group. Late in 1954, however, the

Petroleum Workers' Federation of Aruba was organized. This internationally-affiliated union immediately posed a challenge to the Lago Employee Council claiming support of the majority of Lago employees and demanding bargaining rights.

In the ensuing battle adherents of the PWFA unsuccessfully tried to dislodge the Lago Employee Council twice, once in 1955, and again in 1957. An abortive strike was called late last year and another strike threat posed last February.

These occurrences very well warranted the decision taken last March aimed at establishing beyond doubt the choice of the majority of Lago employees.

As expected, two parties agreed to participate in the representation election governed by rigid rules and supervised by an independent, outside election board. A third possibility on the ballot was "No representation," chosen by only 83 employees. The first choice on the ballot, the Petroleum Workers' Federation of Aruba drew 1384 votes. The second choice, the Independent Oil Workers' Union of Aruba emerged with 1680 votes. There were 3512 eligible voters. Effective participation in the representation election reached an all-time high of 91.3%.

With the IOWUA victory, Lago employees will for the first time in Lago's history be represented by a union. The employees have had the option of choosing between an independent union or a union with international affiliations and commitments. They chose the type they thought fitted their particular needs and the needs of their community better.

UNIONISM IN ARUBA

The recognition of the IOWUA by Lago as the representative body of Lago employees marks the first major achievement of unionism in Aruba. Over the years unions have been organized in Aruba to represent workers in various branches of activity. These unions mostly led a withering existence and practically all collapsed in the end, devoid of achievements worthy of remembrance. Prior to the emergence of the PWFA, the last effort to organize Lago workers in an independent union was undertaken in 1945.

Ironically enough, the majority of Lago employees have not felt the need for a union until changing circumstances made it almost inevitable. Originally represented by a committee set up for that purpose, the Employee Advisory Council, and subsequently by the Lago Employee Council, these employees have had the benefit of representation at no cost. Yet this free representation obtained for them the material benefits they desired and enabled them to keep abreast of rising cost-of-living trends and advancing social demands.

The recurrent appeals on the emotion of a dwindling number of Lago employees, the growing feeling of insecurity among them, and realization of the fact that in the long run the threat of an internationally-affiliated union can be averted only by a strong independent union, finally paved the way for unionism at Lago and in Aruba.

SAME PERSONALITIES

It has been claimed that, apart from a change in name, nothing much has really changed in representation at Lago. The Independent Oil Workers' Union of Aruba is indeed an outgrowth of the LEC. Most of the initiators and members of the union's temporary board were former LEC members. The permanent board elected early this month is a slightly changed replica of the original temporary board. The major change, however, is not in personalities, but in the organization's relationship as to its members, to the Company and to the community. These relationships have been thoroughly modified and it is only natural that adjustment to them will require patience and understanding.

FUTURE DEVELOPMENTS

Rather promising is the seriousness and dedication with which the new union set to work immediately after announcement of the victory. The company was approached without delay and requested to keep all provisions of the latest contract in force until such time as the union will have negotiated its own contract. The temporary board was promptly replaced by a permanent one, whereas preparations for the forthcoming contract negotiations are in full swing.

The major issue in these negotiations will certainly be the demand for a forty-hour work week. The former Lago Employee Council announced this as an issue over one year ago, and it has been adopted by the IOWUA. It is risky at this time to make a prediction about the outcome of this demand. The union feels that its achievement may forestall further force reduction at Lago. On the other hand, adoption of a forty-hour

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work week will tend to put other sectors of the island and Antillean economies under appreciable pressure at a time when these economies need firm stability in view of the economic development plans now in the stage of elaboration.

Other issues that may soon appear on the docket are liberalization of the retirement plan to provide for increased annuities and earlier retirement, and financial assistance to employees for home construction.

LATIN AMERICAN ECONOMIC COOPERATION

by: ROBERTO GOMEZ HINESTROSA

In the statement of objectives of Operatio. Pan Americana one of the most important is the study and the measures to be adopted for the establishment of Regional Markets on our Continent.

I. compliance with this principle and the Treaty of Montevideo by means of which Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Mexico, Paraguay, Peru and Uruguay "... agree to establish a Commercial Free Trade Zone and for this purpose ratify a Treaty establishing the Latin American Free Trade Associatio. ..." as the most effective instrument for the economic development of Latin America. There will be presented briefly later on some of the historical background, the potentialities and repercussion which it will have in our economic development and in the most rapid and effective improvement of the standard of living of our Continent.

I. — OPERATION PAN AMERICANA

To all practical purposes this project was born May 28th, 1954, when the President of Brazil, Juscelino Kubitshek, voicing the common hopes of the Latin American people for a more comprehensive understanding by the United States of their multiple problems, wrote to President Eisenhower his famous letter of that date in which he posed the following question to the illustrious leader of the United States:

"... Permit me, Your Excellency, to suggest that the hour has come to fundamentally revise the policy of understanding in this Hemisphere and to proceed to examine what is being done in favor of Pan American ideals in all of their implications. It is time to ask ourselves the question, are all of us working together for the establishment of an indestructible liason of feelings and interests which the grave situation recommends and counsels?"

Officially, Operation Pan American is made known to our Hemisphere in the address of the President of Brazil on June 20, 1958 before the House of Representatives of the United States, broadcast to the entire nation with the following words:

The newly-recognized union will not find the going easy. The issue of the forty-hour work week is an ambitious goal, and will demand keen bargaining skill. Yet, the main challenge facing the young union is that of winning the acceptance and support of Lago employees in order to build up a solid membership. If the union succeeds, an extended period of stable and sound labor relations may well be the satisfying result.

"... No one doubts that the Nations of this Continent will one day obtain their economic redemption..."

Later on, August 8, 1958 also directly relating to Regional Markets a concrete declaration was made in the Definition and Objectives of Operation Pan American in the Annex to the subject which reads:

"... Article V: Study of the collective measures to be adopted in overcoming the problems arising from the formation of large economic blocks such as the so-called European Common Market; studies and measures conducive to the establishment of Regional Markets on the Continent;"

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As will be noted, the transition from National Markets to Common Markets in Latin America is not only one of the principal objectives of Operation Pan American in the field of economy and underdevelopment, but in our opinion only by overcoming these problems, underdevelopment and low standard of living, in the solution of which Common Markets play an essential part, will it be possible to fully realize the objectives of Operation Pan American.

For these reasons the conception, structure and future development of the Treaty of Montevideo, which we feel to be the most outstanding accomplishment of its kind to occur in Latin America must be considered one of the essential objectives of the Operation and in the light of this opinion we are going to examine this agreement and some of the implications which it has for the economy of our Americas.

TREATY OF MONTEVIDEO

II. — LATIN AMERICAN FREE TRADE ZONE

A) HISTORIC BACKGROUND — Because the Common Market is an international operation which will have decisive influence on the future of the Americas and will contribute extensively to the formation of the Latin American Common Market it is appropriate to provide some of the background on the very old predecessors to what we know today by that name.

The term "Market", which in the Middle Ages meant the place where goods were sold on a certain day of the month and where the seller and the producer were more important factors than the consumer. Today the term "Market" refers to the number of consumers who can be reached by products of a certain quality, price and payment plan, but while "Market" as used in the Middle Ages meant practically a limited time and place, today these two elements are in prime factors in transactions and the meaning of "Market" has come to be the concept of large populations all ready to buy and limited only by product preference determined by sales promotion and the availability of foreign exchange.

In the past the lack of free movement of capital, manpower and production rendered the unity of a market relatively unimportant. Today the international market is profoundly influenced by the multiple and complex restrictions imposed by most countries varying all the way from lack of free commercial exchange to the imbalance in international payments and the monetary instability and inconvertibility.

Under these conditions international consumer areas with a common exchange pattern are of tremendous importance in the development of the national economies and are an indisputable factor for prosperity and progress.

For these reasons limited markets no longer offer, and will offer less in the future, effective guarantees for the stability and development of investments,

for quality products at low prices to the consumer because small markets do not have the economic and technical advantages which are possible with the existence of an extensive consumer area nor can the limited market compete with the large one in either production or distribution.

These principles are indisputable and form the solid base for the Common Market which in order to become a reality must commence its integration by steps and by geographic zones, between countries which have common needs and natural affinities.

Substantiating this point of view and as a forerunner to this concept, we have the Constitution of the United States, which in 1787 established controls on commerce, regulations which in the XIX Century were introduced into Constitutions of the different States of the Union, which in the present century has achieved great prosperity directly based on this economic conception begun in the XVIII Century when there were tremendous problems to be overcome, many similar to our own at the present time, in that the North differed greatly from the South in its economic development and structure giving rise eventually to the economic conflict resulting in the War of Secession.

As for Europe, we can also say in Germany in the XIX Century positive steps taken to expand the market through free internal commerce between the German States and a common tariff on imports, accompanied by a continued increase in the standard of living, something which by contrast did not occur in Italy during the same period where they developed a concentration of wealth in the North to the detriment of the economic development in the South States, something which we must guard against in Latin America, because where profound differences exist in the potentialities and economic development of countries expanding their markets through integration there are great political, social and economic risks for the weaker nations, for which reason our current trade pacts provide protective regulations for countries which have different levels of living standards and economic development.

Other ancient examples of market expansion now disappearing, are the Imperial Colonies of which the British Commonwealth is the most successful through the application of economic controls.

As can be seen the Common Market is an ancient concept and in spite of the complexities of its organization and difficulties in applying it has prospered and served as an unquestionable factor of growth and economic development which was apparent even before the Second World War with the integration of the European Common Markets, which will not be described in detail but will be listed chronologically.

First was the Bretton Woods agreement of 1944 out of which came the International Reconstruction Finance Bank and the International Monetary Fund, which together with the General Agreement on Trade and Tariff (GATT) and the Marshall Plan of 1947

can be considered to be the precursors of the European Common Market, especially the latter because it gave rise to the establishment of the European Economic Cooperation Organization (EECO) in 1948 and later to the Benelux Tariff Union of Belgium, Holland and Luxembourg which ultimately took in 18 countries (Austria, Denmark, Norway, Portugal, Sweden, Switzerland, United Kingdom, Belgium, France, Germany, Italy, Luxembourg, Holland, Greece, Iceland, Ireland, Spain and Turkey), known as the "Quiet Revolution", which grew into the present European Common Market groups. In September 1950 there was formed the European Payments Union (EPU) and in April 1951, the European Coal and Steel Community (ECSC) composed of Benelux, France, Germany and Italy; in March 1957, the European Atomic Energy Community.

The EECO led to the formation of two important organizations — the European Economic Community (EEC) in 1957, known as "The Six" (Western Germany, Belgium, France, Holland, Italy and Luxembourg) whose declared policy is, "To contribute by means of a common commercial policy to the progressive elimination of the restrictions imposed upon international commerce"; and the group named European Free Trade Association (EFTA) referred to as "The Seven" (Austria, Denmark, Norway, Portugal, Sweden, Switzerland and England). This latter association, as stated by Dr. Lange, Sweden's Minister of Commerce, is not intended to divide Western Europe into two economic blocks but to contribute to the ultimate formation of an European Commerce Association which it is considered more easier to accomplish through the elimination of barriers by groups rather than trying to overcome them all at once throughout all of the member countries of OEEC, in this manner clearing the way for "The Seven" to associate themselves with "The Six" and the other countries which still are isolated from the two groups.

Thus far we have a brief outline of the historical process in the old world which may be considered to closely represent the process which our Continent may follow in the difficult, complex search for formulas and for the men capable of applying them to the formation of Latin American Common Market (LACM). This was the popular conception of most people in 1949 when Dr. R. Prebisch, Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Latin America (CEFLA), undertook the work of integrating the Central American Common Market, accomplished in 1952, when with the approval of the ECPLA, other governments became interested in the subject and there was signed in Tegucigalpa in June of 1958 the Multilateral Central American Free Trade Treaty which, supplemented by an agreement for Central America Industrial Integration was signed by Guatemala, El Salvador, Honduras, Nicaragua and Costa Rica.

Since this Treaty was not ratified by Nicaragua

and Costa Rica another Treaty of economic association was signed by Honduras, Guatemala and El Salvador January 9, 1960, containing basically the same principles as the former one, taking a firm step toward the Common Market, the Tariff Union, free Monetary Exchange and the creation of a Central American assistance and development fund.

This Treaty, together with the Treaty of Montevideo is a sure step for the development of a Latin American Common Market. The ECPAL, the steering and driving force of Latin American economic integration, has formed working commissions for the study of the problem with official representation from the Governments of Argentina, Brazil, Colombia, Chile, Ecuador, Uruguay, Mexico, Perú and Venezuela, groups which have held meetings (in Chile February 1958, Mexico February 1959 and Panama July 1959 with another one planned for Caracas this year). Also the ECPAL has assisted in forming the Gran Colombian Common Market, having held commission meetings in Bogotá 1958, Caracas 1959 and in Quito December 1960. The latter making a study of the desirability of the joined participation of Colombia, Venezuela and Ecuador in the Latin American Free Trade Zone (LFTZ).

Another fore-runner to the Treaty of Montevideo was the common agreement between Chile and Ecuador (1957) and the bilateral agreements which exist between Argentina, Brazil, Chile and Uruguay and the proposed agreement subscribed to by the Govern-

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ments of Colombia and Ecuador in July 1959, ratified by the Ecuadorian Congress but not by Colombia, since at that time Colombia, Venezuela and Ecuador had commenced the study of individual or joined participation in the Latin American Free Trade Association, so that in agreement with Ecuador the Colombian Government has indefinitely postponed ratification of the earlier bilateral agreement continuing to operate under the Treaty of 1942, which contained the basic principle of integration.

As evidence of Colombia's faith and determination to achieve the principles of a common market and its desire to contribute to Latin American understanding of these principles there are the studies accomplished by the joint work commissions composed of representatives of Colombia, Panama, Venezuela and Peru, who worked throughout the year 1959, presenting to their respective Governments solid conclusions for commercial integration which, although not yet acted upon conclusively nevertheless have awakened the interest and enthusiasm of the Governments in this economic concept which since the XVIII century has been forcing the peoples to seek more adequate formulas for higher standard of living and economic development through joining together in mutual cooperation.

B) DEFINITION OF COMMON MARKET (CM) AND FREE TRADE ZONE (FTZ): By Common Market is meant the elimination of frontiers for the free movement of trade investment capital, services and personnel under the legal form of a Customs Union which imposes common tariffs and controls on commerce with countries outside the integrated area and which makes administrative fiscal monetary and institutional adjustments conducive to a total economic union and integration.

The Free Trade Zone (FTZ), as distinguished from the Common Market, maintains its own customs duties for imports from outside zone and operates on a basis of import duties negotiated by the countries which compose the free zone, committed to the gradual and total elimination of the tariffs within a previously agreed upon period of time.

C) IMPORT OF THE LATIN AMERICAN FREE TRADE ZONE (FTZ): Along with factors, the value of a market is measured by: a) the size of its population; b) the geographical size of the zone; c) its gross purchasing power; d) its commerce in terms of imports, exports and consumption; e) by its electrical power potentiality.

Although the level of economic development and standard of living of the great majority of consumers in Latin America is not comparable to that of the United States and Europe, and in spite of the immense unpopulated geographical areas and other factors which are not conducive to accurate computation of production, international trade and consumption, making comparisons difficult, nevertheless for the purpose of evaluating the importance of the Latin American Free Trade Zone, both short range

possibilities and the enormous potential advantages of the future it is well to establish that, according to United Nations statistics of 1958 the LFTZ comprises 70% of the population; nearly 80% of the area and more than 50% in value of the economic activity of the Latin American Continent.

These U.N. statistics for 1958 are:

	Latin America	Free Trade Zone
Population	185	130
Area - Millions of Sq. Kilometers	20	16
Income - Millions of Dollars	43,000	30,000
Exports - Millions of Dollars	7,000	3,000
Imports - Millions of Dollars	8,000	5,000
Electric Power - Millions of KWH	50,000	40,000

In 1958 the foreign trade of the Zone countries reached 9 billion dollars, a fourth of the trade done by the European Free Trade Asso, and a fifth of the amount of the European Economic Community. Do we have now, or will we have in the immediate future, the men capable of managing this enormous, potential wealth for the common good of all?

Only the future holds the answer, but for the moment we know that we have men who have been able to create the first instruments, to initiate the utilization of the advantages inherent in the Regional Market, which later must be perfected, but even now are undertaking the complicated task of commencing regional, economic integration as evidenced by the extraordinarily important Treaty of Montevideo and the Centroamerican Economic Association.

D) ADVANTAGES AND DISADVANTAGES OF THE FREE TRADE ZONE (FTZ). It is well to point out clearly the multiple benefits, especially economic and technical, which countries in an FTZ receive for the sole purpose of convincing, once and for all, Governments, Private Enterprise and Public Opinion to grant their full support and cooperation.

In the first place, great markets and competition are created, giving the consumer all the advantages such as price and quality resulting from mass con-

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sumption. The businessman benefits from increased capacity and mass production rather than just a high price structure. Governments benefit politically from the higher standard of living which can be attained. Furthermore, there results an industrial expansion in capital goods, durable consumer goods and industrial by-products. There is free access to raw materials and an opportunity to take advantage of common natural resources; expansion in agricultural production and consumption; the chance to make up the temporary or permanent deficits in production occurring in any member nation; stimulation of foreign investment and greater bargaining power of the integrated countries when negotiating with other international areas, whether integrated or not. All these benefits result from a Common Market whatever the style adopted.

Common markets of any design create many other advantages of an economic-social order whose importance is parallel to the technical ones mentioned. It is well known that the consumer is, and should be, the chief, protective consideration of the State. But we also know that legislators can't allow this to be their sole criterion for they must exercise their responsibilities in the highest national interest, exacting legislation which will adequately protect its industry, providing a protection, thanks to which Latin America is showing a growing rate of industrialization which would not have been possible without resorting to these measures, which, in passing, it may be said, are the same drastic ones which prevailed in the past and gave world leadership in industry to the highly specialized nations which still retain a good part of them in spite of their high level of development.

But times have changed and will continue to do so with changes which emphasize the disadvantages of the under-developed countries across the way from the most powerful ones, because while most of the latter have a highly specialized production of both capital and consumer goods, the less developed nations have to compete on very difficult, unfavorable conditions and therefore, as the years pass, it will not be easy to oblige their consumers to buy national products of poorer quality and higher price than the goods which can be imported from highly industrialized countries for the simple reason that the social evolution in process in all countries has placed in the legislative bodies representatives of the people who must bow to the wishes of an electorate which will not sit still for the old pattern of protection but will demand first class products at low prices with no thought of "protection and industrial development" based upon enforced, burdensome charges. Each day there is more clearly visible the ideological distortion in many sectors of opinion which think in terms of expedience, even foreign, rather than of the national interests.

Under such conditions the response to this demand and the solution to the problem is not offered

in national markets of limited scope but by markets of vast consumer areas in which raw materials, labor, capital and products can circulate creating of themselves a spread of economic activity in proportion to the immediate needs of mass production supported by both sales and consumption in direct relation to the extent of the market and if this were the only benefit to be derived from a Free Trade Zone, it alone would justify every effort to bring it about.

Apart from these there are other, technical advantages of inestimable value proportionate to the potentials of the Zone making possible immediately the benefits of researching greater opportunities for specialization and broader sharing in the distribution of consumer goods, none of it possible in under-developed national markets with the untold advantages for full utilization of both the mechanical and human elements in large scale production at low cost.

These technical advantages inherent in the plain increase with specialization offered by the Common Market a specialization which must be one of the goals of the Latin American Free Trade Zone which can be translated into full and maximum utilization of machinery, specialization of workers and directors and the development of creativeness, all working together to provide a richer life to a more demanding consumer.

Only mass consumer markets make possible creative specialization which is a prime request for the development of research and of human beings and technical groups so sorely needed for the economic improvement of our peoples. It is this which will cause the disappearance of constricted markets in the XXI century.

E) DISADVANTAGES TO SOME COUNTRIES ON BECOMING PART OF A FREE TRADE ZONE :

There is no doubt that in any Common Market, be it called by that name or Regional Market, Latin American Free Trade Zone or other, there are risks and disadvantages for the lesser developed countries in competition with the strongly economically better developed countries. We saw this fact in the development of the Northern markets in Italy in the XIX century, almost causing the ruin of the States in the South. The economy in the Southern States was based on agriculture and a few small industries. The North, in addition to agriculture had a high degree of industrial development, better transportation and availability of capital and therefore not having perfected proper balance controls things grew worse in the Southern less developed States with the movement of capital and labor to the States in the North.

This fact must not be overlooked in achieving our own integration in Latin America, where they do exist marked difficulties of development between the countries endeavoring to form the trade union. In addition to the constriction of wealth in some countries there is also the danger that weaker countries

may be forced to buy capital and consumer goods at prices higher than can be obtained outside the Zone while at the same time their products must be offered at prices on the international market as pointed out in the Treaty of Montevideo, which has protective clauses worthy of study by all countries contemplating entering a Trade Zone.

Nevertheless, most of these risks for the weaker countries can be overcome and for this reason stronger nations which will receive the greater, immediate benefits must grant concessions not merely theoretical, but providing the specific regulations for the stability of the system because any community agreement which can not serve all its members will die at birth or be short-lived.

F) POSSIBILITIES OF IMMEDIATE REALIZATION OFFERED BY THE LATIN-AMERICAN FREE TRADE ASSOCIATION; We have spoken of the need for a Common Market and its importance to find the proper machinery to fit the member nations. The LETZ most nearly accomplishes this by bearing in mind that the problems are of such complexity that we must be psychologically prepared not to fold up when we come upon them. We must not forget apart from the factors of a political nature which at any moment may make it necessary to either stimulate or impede the development, there are some present economic concessions such as difference in degree of industrial development, in national monetary value, in level of protective tariffs, level of culture development, economic isolation for various reasons, lack of agreement among businessmen regarding the basic protection for his own business. These obstacles which are enough to sway even the most dedicated and optimistic advocate because as we examine them we also come upon an entrenched nationalistic concept in private enterprise, such that if the Government doesn't take the necessary steps itself such as prior and thorough studies the realization of a Common Market in the near future will be difficult.

Latin American industrialization consisting of the production of consumer and intermediate goods with excessive protection of its industries causes one to think that if specialization is not fostered and adapted to the demands of the Treaty of Montevideo it could become inoperative because an 8% annual reduction in tariffs can be of little stimulation to commerce during the first years, even after overcoming the national resistance to integration. Due to the fact that in most cases the protection of national industry is strong and there is a large imbalance in development one country to another (Argentina, Brazil and Mexico as constricted with Chile, Peru, Uruguay and Paraguay and even Chile and Peru as compared to Paraguay). Consequently there are scope clauses for the protection of the weaker nations which in themselves may be factors slowing up the development of the agreement.

In agriculture the situation is more favorable.

since even with a difference in level and degree of specialization in the various countries there has been for some time the influence of the collaboration of the Union of the agricultural market, although with some natural mistrust due to different degrees of development. If this is true in the Southern nations such as Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Paraguay and Uruguay, which because of common geographical and other interests are in a good position to tackle integration in a Free Zone, and it certainly would be more difficult to solve the problem in other Continental Zones such as the Great Colombia and the Central American Zone and even Mexico, because transportation is an essential factor for economic development. The foregoing statements are not made for the purpose of promoting or giving credence to the natural pessimism which projects of this magnitude awaken, but only to give a little warning which may make the realization less confusing. Enthusiasm and optimism for undertakings of great purpose sometimes cause us to seek the accomplishment at once, and perhaps for this reason, members of the Zone and potential members have undertaken to make prolific and profound studies of all types of production, imports and consumption, which can offer minimum, maximum or negative possibilities for exchange studies which because of their very important independence and extent is retarding rather than hastening the development of the agreement.

Would it not be possible and preferable to establish at once priorities for those lines which offer the greatest possibility for integration instead of trying to achieve a minimum by means of study which comprises the entire economy of each country.

It must be understood that there is no desire to minimize the importance of the studies being made. On the contrary, it is suggested that each country make its own studies for they are needed immediately, either with or without a Free Zone because such studies are indispensable in developing the internal economy of each country, but probably the accomplishment of the Treaty of Montevideo could be speeded up if a group of experts from the associated countries and those about to join would work together simultaneously using all of the works which have been completed up to date and with the cooperative counseling of private enterprise to prepare a priority list for the group, because so far as can be seen the extensive presentation in some cases completed, in others merely under study, is impeding and complicating the execution of the Treaty. It is hoped that this impression is incorrect.

Agricultural integration could begin at once with the study of supplying immediately the production deficits which so frequently occur in some of our countries. These concessions lead us to the conclusion that in spite of the complexity of the problem not only are there immediate opportunities for integration which would be taken advantage of, but in our conception this could be one of the most effective

means of obtaining the integration in a reasonable length of time.

III - COLOMBIA CONFRONTED BY THE LATIN AMERICAN FREE TRADE ASSOCIATION:

In March President Lleras Camargo's Government presented to the country its famous platform for economic development, of which the basic purpose is to prepare us for future development through study and technical planning of a program of economic development to be accomplished for the first five year period.

This plan gives special importance to the principle of the Common Market and particularly to the Latin American Trade Association having been the subject as all essential points, of special Committee headed by the Minister of Foreign Relations, and including former Ministers of State, Government officials and representatives of private enterprise to proceed after studying the Treaty of Montevideo, to determine the advisability of Colombia's participation. After seven months of intensive labor the Committee recommended participation in spite of disadvantages such as sacrificing some non-competitive activities; loss of opportunity to join the Gran Colombia and to make changes in the tariff as well as monetary losses from tariffs. The decision was based upon opportunities open to Colombia and to avoid being left out of the wave of international investment in Latin America and to give it the strength to negotiate with the integrated groups and to assist in the production

of capital goods. The recommendation received blessing of the Government, and today it is the official course being followed with the expectation that Colombia will present its membership application in Montevideo.

Colombia had previously considered establishing a pact with Ecuador and Venezuela, but has since decided against it. In closing let us take a look at some of the advantages which Colombia can offer as a member of the Association.

Colombia occupies the following position in American, South American and world activities, according to international statistics:

First in the world in production of instant coffee, in the production of emeralds. Second in coffee production; third in the production of bananas; fifth in platinum; eighth in gold; ninth in petroleum.

In America second in the production of platinum; fifth in petroleum and in steel; sixth in population; seventh in territory.

In South America, first in the production of gold; fourth in territory.

Industry, agriculture and livestock are activities which have received extraordinary development in our country in recent years and upon joining the Zone Colombia can count upon a well organized merchant marine and commercial aviation which will be important factors in the economic development and consolidation of the Zone, particularly between Mexico and the countries to the South.

Curaçao Trade & Industry Association Curaçao Chamber Of Commerce & Industry

CONSIDERANDO

Que la expansión de la exportación de mercancías y servicios de la región de la América Latina y del Caribe conduce a mejorar el promedio de vida de su población.

CONSIDERANDO

Que los ingresos de divisas provenientes de la industria turística son de vital importancia para la economía de la mayoría de los países del Caribe y algunos de la América Latina.

CONSIDERANDO

Que el Comité de comercio de la Comisión Económica para la América Latina, en su Tercera Sesión celebrada en Santiago, Chile, en mayo de 1961, ha expresado su deseo y adoptado una resolución para promover el desarrollo de la Industria Turística en la América Latina.

ESTIMA

Que cualquier nueva medida, que sea inconsistente

en relacion con el turismo a dichos países podrá crear problemas de gran importancia económica y social para dicho países.

INDICA

A todos los miembros de la Cámara de Comercio de las Américas que la presentación de una Legislación o Regulación de aduanas o cualquier otra naturaleza, que afecte la importancia del turismo a otros países está directamente en contra de los objetivos de la Cámara de Comercio de las Américas.

INVITA

A los miembros para que tomen todas las medidas necesarias para oponerse a dicha Legislación o regulación en sus respectivas áreas de operación.

Presentada por F. Vreughenhill, Presidente Curaçao Chamber of Commerce and Ind., A. J. Jesuru, Vice Presidente Curaçao Trade and Inc. Association.

RESOLUCION

POR CUANTO El Departamento de Estado de los Estados Unidos ha cerrado su Consulado en Oranjestad, Aruba desde Febrero 28, 1961; y

POR CUANTO El arriba mencionado Consulado de los Estados Unidos habia sido establecido en Aruba desde hace más de veinte años; y

POR CUANTO El hecho de que ese Consulado haya sido cerrado ha provocado pérdida de tiempo para los viajeros en general, que por negocio o vacaciones, o por ambos motivos desean viajar a los Estados Unidos y no tienen una visa; y

POR CUANTO El Consulado más cercano a la Isla de Aruba está en Willemstad, Curaçao; y

POR CUANTO La única forma posible de visitar ese Consulado General personalmente, lo que en muchos casos es una necesidad, es por vía aérea; y

POR CUANTO Los Gastos extras pueden calcularse en un mínimo de \$40.00 por persona; y

POR CUANTO En la Isla de Aruba está establecida una de las más grandes refinerías del mundo, Lago Oil & Transport Company Ltd., afiliada a la Standard Oil of New Jersey; y

POR CUANTO Desde Marzo 31 de 1960 la Isla de Aruba, que tiene cerca de 55,000 habitantes se ha convertido en el lugar de residencia de aproximadamente 1400 ciudadanos americanos; y

POR CUANTO Las relaciones comerciales de la Isla de Aruba, tanto de importación como de exportación; ascienden a cientos de millones de dólares anuales, según ha quedado demostrado por las estadísticas publicadas por el Gobierno de las Antillas Holandesas; y

POR CUANTO El Gobierno de los Estados Unidos y el Gobierno de las Antillas Holandesas han declarado que desean promover el comercio y/o el turismo entre los Estados Unidos y las Antillas Holandesas; y

POR CUANTO Los ciudadanos americanos prefieren pasar sus vacaciones en lugares donde esté establecido un Consulado Americano, el qué al pre-

sente no existe en Aruba, el turismo de los Estados Unidos puede ser seriamente afectado; y

POR CUANTO Un caso similar sucedio con el Consulado de Colón, República de Panamá, y después se abrió de nuevo dicho Consulado; y

POR CUANTO Las razones expuestas por el Departamento de Estado de los Estados Unidos son que el motivo de cerrarlo es por economía, y por la necesidad de abrir nuevos Consulados en países que acaban de independizarse, y

POR CUANTO En muchos casos el Gobierno de los Estados Unidos ha expresado su amistad y buen deseo hacia los pueblos de la América Latina y del Caribe, y

POR CUANTO Dicha amistad y buen deseo son una necesidad para los pueblos de la América Latina y del Caribe; y

POR CUANTO Uno de los principales objetivos de la Cámara de Comercio de las Américas es defender e impulsar el sistema de la empresa libre, lo que será logrado con la reapertura del Consulado Americano en Aruba;

POR TANTO

RESOLVEMOS Que es la opinión de la XI Conferencia Anual de la Cámara de Comercio de las Américas reunida en Aruba que el Consulado Americano en Oranjestad, Aruba, debe ser abierto de nuevo;

RESOLVEMOS Que el Sr. Presidente designe un Comité para presentar la Resolución a las autoridades competentes en Washington D.C., Estados Unidos de América;

RESOLVEMOS Que la Junta Directiva de la Cámara de Comercio de las Américas tome todos los pasos que estime necesarios y/o utiles para lograr la apertura del Consulado Americano en Aruba lo antes posible.

Aruba Chamber of Commerce and Industry
Aruba Trade and Industry Association

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE OF THE AMERICA

Mr. President, Delegates, observers and friends, the officers of the World Committee on Employment of the Handicapped have asked me to express to you their sincere appreciation for the privilege you have granted to our Committee, to permit me to speak to you about EMPLOYMENT OF THE HANDICAPPED.

Many of you who are present, already are aware of this Program; because, as you know, the Chamber of Commerce of the Americas established a Committee for the Employment of the Handicapped in 1955.

For the benefit of those who are not familiar with this Movement, may I say that the WORLD COMMITTEE is an organization of businessmen and women, dedicated to the elevation of the handicapped

of the World through dignified employment.

And our object is to create programs on employment of the handicapped throughout the World. We work through international organizations which are now committed to civic service; for example, the B'nai B'rith; the Junior Chamber of Commerce International; and through trade and fraternal organizations, such as the Shriners.

We endeavor to solicit or develop local implementation of the programs established in other nations and to promote the idea that employment should be the ULTIMATE of all rehabilitation. We ask: To what purpose shall we rehabilitate a man, and then permit him to sink into a well of despair simply because he is

unemployed. He knows he has talent, he knows he can do a week's work; but he runs into the strong chain of prejudice — the employer does not know the facts.

The reason this Movement has received acceptance in many parts of the World is: This program is a good one. It is beneficial to all who participate. We all have a stake in the prosperity of our nation. The more productive skills that are fully employed, the greater the wealth that is created. **THE HANDICAPPED CAN CREATE NATIONAL WELATH!**

All employers are tax payers and they must support, directly or indirectly, people who are not supporting themselves.

The World Committee is projecting forcefully the idea that employing the handicapped does not mean charity — it means enabling human beings to produce a useful service or commodity for pay. Statistics prove that handicapped persons produce equally. There is less turnover. Less absenteeism. More personal loyalty, and fewer accidents. Businessmen have found that **IT IS GOOD BUSINESS TO EMPLOY THE HANDICAPPED.**

In the United States there are 17,000,000 handicapped persons; one in every ten persons; but many are proving that disabilities do not bar them from useful work. Independence is a precious possession, and handicapped persons are no different than you or I — they, too, need independence.

THE WORLD COMMITTEE recently sent a representative to Calcutta to address the Asian Junior Chamber of Commerce. The bulk of these Jaycees come from countries with heavy unemployment problems.

India, for example, has an estimated 20,000,000 handicapped persons, a drain of more than \$1,000,000,000 annually on the Indian economy.

To advocate to Asian Jaycees, who often are businessmen of standing in their own right, that they should employ handicapped persons, might at first seem not to make sense.

But, once the Jaycees grasped the idea that the World Committee is not advocating preferential employment for the handicapped; but seeking job selection on merit, regardless of the disability; they became enthusiastic about the Program. By the simple introduction of certain types of employment, this destitute mass of humanity, this economic cancer could be transferred into a bolstering asset.

The result of this effort on the part of the World Committee was the establishing of programs for the handicapped in six Indian cities.

In Japan, which as you know, is a highly industrialized country, with Government regulated employment of the handicapped, many employers felt that "inefficient" workers were being forced upon them by the Government.

After a recent visit of the representative of the World Committee, it was agreed to launch an employer education campaign in two major cities; to show employers that handicapped workers could be as efficient or as inefficient as anybody else, depending upon how their abilities were used or misused.

The powerful Mainichi newspaper-television network

gave heavy support to the Movement, and more support has been guaranteed.

In the Philippines, Government officials at cabinet level, agreed to swing the Employment Service and the Rehabilitation Service into active concert with the World Committee Employ the Handicapped campaign.

Projects have been started in Hong Kong, Ceylon, Malaya and last year we sent a representative to Israel where the Program was received with great ardor. In May, our representative returned from another visit to Israel with the report that the Government Department of Labor has agreed to launch an Employer Education campaign. They too, have learned that it is **PROFITABLE TO EMPLOY THE HANDICAPPED.**

From Australia comes a real success story. In 1959 and 1960, 16,000 workers were employed; representing most of the handicapped workers in Australia. These 16,000 workers have added more than \$150,000,000 to the Australian economy.

In Guatemala, a program is now being initiated; and we hope that this will spearhead extensive activities throughout Latin America.

Hundreds of thousands of handicapped persons are being given an opportunity to work, as a result of the planning and the education program originating with the **WORLD COMMITTEE.**

It is our belief that the Chamber of Commerce of the Americas represent the outstanding effort of willing cooperation and mutual endeavor on the present-day scene.

While our results to date have been spectacular, there is still much work to be accomplished; and we feel that with your knowledge of economics, your wide contacts and your energy — **YOU TOO CAN CREATE INTEREST AND ACTION** in this great humanitarian Movement, which is now reaching across the seas and gathering momentum throughout the World.

Address presented by
Mrs. Alberta M. Doherty
Director of the Development
Program World Committee on
Employment of the Handicapped.

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Sesquicentenario de la Independencia de la Argentina

por Dr. H. RIEMENS, ex-embajador de Venezuela

(Continuación)

Perón, que tuvo el apoyo del ejército, también ganó el del gran proletariado de la ciudad que hasta entonces hubo carecido de toda influencia política. Siendo Ministro de Asuntos Sociales le fué fácil obtener poder en el movimiento sindicalista y triunfar en las elecciones presidenciales de 1946 — también las E.E.U.U. al tratar a oponer su elección le ayudó.

En los diez años de la presidencia de Perón la economía argentina se desorganizó completamente. A fines de este período la Argentina en total no contaba menos de 1.800.000 de funcionarios, empleados y obreros en servicio de la magistratura federal, provincial y municipal, eso es con sus familiares más o menos siete millones de gente sobre una población total de unos 20 millones. Por el aumento del consumo de las ciudades a la producción agrícola no le sobró sino una partícula para la exportación, también las manipulaciones del precio del régimen fueron dañosas para la agricultura así como el éxodo a las ciudades. La Argentina había consumido mucho más de lo que había producido y en la agricultura tanto como en la industria las inversiones se retrazaron. Los ferrocarriles, así como muchas otras empresas nacionalizadas trabajaron con una pérdida enorme por ser muy anticuadas. Continuamente el balance de pagos estuvo bajo gran presión, lo que se manifestó en una baja continua del valor del peso argentino. La deuda nacional aumentó y la gran reserva de oro de que la Argentina disponía a fines de la Segunda Guerra Mundial había desaparecido como nieve ante el sol.

Perón cayó en 1955. Las dificultades en que el Gobierno Provisional se vió eran enormes. Porque la popularidad de Perón no decreció totalmente entre los trabajadores para quienes él era una clase de ídolo, así como su esposa Evita Perón que falleció en 1952, la política queda agitada. Muchos que son favorecidos por el régimen, temen perder estas ventajas, de manera que también en estos círculos Perón encuentra partidarios. Tanto tiempo El ejército estuvo en condiciones de conducir el desarrollo político tanto tiempo que tampoco es lo fácil ceder de esto.

Como una de las primeras medidas tomadas se puede nombrar el declarar provisionalmente en vigor la Constitución de 1853. En febrero de 1958 el líder de los radicales, Don Arturo Frondizi, fué elegido como presidente. Este hizo evidente a la Nación Argentina

que solamente el trabajar más duro, el ahorrar más y el gastar menos podría restablecer el país. El peso está ahora más estabilizado, por eso la inflación que después de la caída de Perón seguía desastrosa no tomó cuerpo. Es sin duda un hecho que la Argentina por el régimen de Perón no sólo cayó en grandes dificultades internas, sino también que la apariencia de la Argentina en el mundo disminuyó mucho. Este país con su población blanca y bien educada anteriormente siempre se consideraba como número Uno de la América Latina, ahora no cabe duda que este lugar pasó a Brazil, mientras que hay buenas razones para darle el segundo lugar a Méjico y no a la Argentina. Para un pueblo tan consciente como el pueblo argentino esto es un asunto bastante doloroso.

Frondizi tomó diversas medidas que demuestran coraje y perspicacia sin tener mucho cuidado que estas medidas por los peronistas y los comunistas pudiesen ser presentadas reaccionarias, hasta una genuflexión ante el tan detestado capital extranjero. Su gobierno celebró contratos con las grandes compañías peruvianas internacionales para elevar la producción del petróleo en la Argentina. El momento ya llegó en que la perspectiva de que la Argentina no necesitará gastar más cientos de millones de dólares por la importación de productos petroleros pero podrá proveer completamente para su propio consumo. Frondizi visitó oficialmente a los Estados Unidos — lo que ningún presidente antes de él lo hizo — y a diferentes países europeos entre otros el nuestro.

Al fin su gobierno contrajo un empréstito para la estabilización con un consorcio bancario internacional. Según observadores argentinos las mayores dificultades se encuentran más en el terreno psicológico que en el de la economía. Perón ha predicado tan odio entre las clases que toda la unidad del pueblo parece haber llegado a un punto peligroso.

Así es como después de un sesquicentenario de independencia la República Argentina se encuentra en grandes dificultades. Pero la capacidad de lo pueblos del Mundo Nuevo para restablecerse después de poco tiempo es sorprendente y con una administración eficaz La Argentina con sus grandes riquezas naturales y su población inteligente en breve pertenecerá entre los más prósperos países de la América Latina.

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